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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : :

IWAI, SADAYUKI ET AL. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1774

SERIAL NO: 09/820,844 : :

FILED: MARCH 30, 2001 : EXAMINER: FERGUSON, L.

FOR: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, INTERMEDIATE IMAGE TRANSFER BELT
THEREFOR AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE BELT

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-52, 54-57, 59-63, 65-68, 70-76, 78-81, 83-87, 89-92, and 94-98 are pending in the present application. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

At the outset, Applicants thank Examiner Ferguson for the helpful discussion of the present application on June 9, 2003, which is summarized and expanded upon below. Further, Applicants thank Examiner Ferguson for withdrawing the rejection of the claims over U.S.P. 5,610,691 and the product-by-process claim limitation rejection.

The rejection of Claims 49-52, 54-57, 59-63, 65-68, 70-76, 78-81, 83-87, 89-92, and 94-96 over Tanaka et al. is traversed below. Further, it should be noted that Applicants